

Message Text

SECRET

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21

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 MC-02 ACDA-19 SAB-01 SAM-01 IO-14

DRC-01 /155 W

----- 074409

R 081023Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9520

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T KUWAIT 1811

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR KU, UR, SY

SUBJECT: KUWAITI REQUEST FOR SOVIET ARMS

REF: A) KUWAIT 1788 (NOTAL) B) KUWAIT 1372 (NOTAL)

1. DURING MY TALK WITH KUWAITI FONMIN SABAH AL-AHMAD MAY 5, REPORTED REF A, HE MENTIONED THAT GOK STILL AWAITING REPLY FROM SOVIETS TO KUWAITI REQUEST SEVERAL MONTHS AGO TO PURCHASE RUSSIAN WEAPONS (REF B). FONMIN CONFIRMED THAT SOVIET WEAPONS SOUGHT, MAINLY TANKS, WERE NOT RPT NOT FOR KUWAIT PROPER, NOR EVEN, AS ADVERTISED, FOR KUWAITI TROOPS IN SYRIA. THEY WERE IN FACT TO BE GIFT TO SYRIAN ARMY.

2. FONMIN SAID THAT WHILE HE STILL EXPECTED RECEIVE ANSWER

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SOONER OR LATER; HE FELT AT LOSS EXPLAIN SOVIET SLOWNESS. PER-

HAPS, FONMIN MUSED, RUSSIANS LEARY OF IRAQI REACTION TO KUWAITI
PURCHASE OF RUSSIAN ARMS, ALTHOUGH THIS EXPLANATION NOT TOO
CONVINCING SINCE THEY AWARE WEAPONS DESTINED FOR SYRIA.
I SAID I HAD TO SHARE HIS MYSTIFICATION.
STOLTZFUS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY SALES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Comment: n/a
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Review Date: 05 JUN 2002
Review Event:
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Review History: RELEASED <05 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <06 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005